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Official Lying

The late CIA Director Allen W. Dulles believed that the director of his agency and the head of the FBI were within their rights to lie to anyone but the President to protect the secrecy of their operations.

Dulles made the statement to the Warren Commission that investigated the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The issue arose when Dulles, by then gone from the CIA, was asked whether the CIA and FBI chiefs would answer truthfully if asked if assassin Lee Harvey Oswald had ever worked for either of the agencies. Both agencies denied any connection with Oswald when asked by the commission.

The Dulles remarks came to light through the efforts of writer and investigator Harold Weisberg who found them in commission records declassified by the Nation Archives. They appear in his book on the assassination, "Whitewash IV."